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7-3-03  
(NE)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Bastian et al.

Serial No.: 09/536,736

ART UNIT: 1636

Filed: March 28, 2000

EXAMINER: W.O. Sandals

Title: METHOD FOR ISOLATING AND  
PURIFYING NUCLEIC ACIDS ON  
SURFACES

Attorney Docket No.: QGN-009.1 US

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**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO AN OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

Sir:

Applicants submit this correspondence and accompanying documents in response to an Office Action (Paper No. 14), mailed January 28, 2003, in the above-identified application. A Petition for a two-month extension for filing a response accompanies this response, along with the fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(a)(2).

A Notice of Appeal and the fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(b) is filed concurrently herewith.

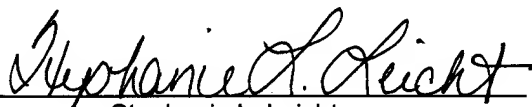
The claims are amended as indicated on separate sheets (below), wherein a strikethrough indicates deletion and underlining indicates added terms and phrases. Applicants' remarks regarding the Office Action follow the claims.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and accompanying documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10, postage prepaid, Express Mailing Label No. EV 325775478 US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

June 30, 2003

Date



Stephanie L. Leicht